June 19, 2009 Morning Highlights 2009-15 Time: 11:00 a.m. Contact:

Public Affairs (907) 356-5511 Report Fires: (800) 237-3633

This report will not be updated again until Monday, June 22, unless fire activity increases over the weekend. For information about individual fires, see the AICC Situation Report.

Nenana Ridge Update:

The Nenana Ridge research burn has been completed for the season. One of two units was burned. Weather conditions did not allow for the second unit to be burned on Thursday. Researchers and media who traveled to Fairbanks for the burn have returned home. Researchers came from the University of Alaska, the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station and the Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Funding and support for the successful implementation of the research project has been an interagency effort and comes from the Joint Fire Science Program; the University of Alaska; the Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Department of Fish and Game; the Bureau of Land Management Alaska Fire Service and Fairbanks District Office; the USDA Forest Service; the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and the Ruffed Grouse Society.

Fire Update

Eleven new fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center on Thursday. One was human caused and the rest were lightning-caused. There are 53 actives fires burning across Alaska. Five of the fires are staffed.

Noatak	6 personnel	2 acres	
Winter Trail	127 personnel	1,500 acres	
North Fork	9 personnel	15 acres	
Cobalt Creek	18 personnel	895 acres	tentative demob 6/20
Franklin Creek	4 personnel	9,060 acres	

The human-caused Winter Trail Fire is approximately 10 miles west of Aniak and originated from a cooking fire. It is burning in black spruce and has proven difficult to contain. It is on the north side of the Kuskokwim River, and is moving in a northwest direction away from the river, pushed by strong winds. The Chena and Pioneer Peak Hotshots, the Denali, Lower Kalstag, Nondalton #2, and Gannett Glacier Type 2 crews have been assigned to the fire and they are being supported by helicopters and air tankers. For more information about the Winter Trail Fire or any other fires burning in the southwest portion of Alaska, please call Information Officer Andy Alexandrou at (907) 574-0300.

A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place over the Winter Trail Fire. Pilots should check NOTAMS for the area.

For information about each fire, please visit: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf.

So far this year, 277 fires have burned 243,908 acres statewide. For a map of fires visit: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php Note: The map takes time to load.

Smoke

Residents of Alaska may at times smell smoke, depending on wind direction and fire activity. Several lightning-caused fires throughout the state are burning in remote areas and will continue until enough precipitation is received later in the summer to extinguish them. For information about how you can protect yourself from smoke, please visit: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm

Burn Permits

Please contact your local Division of Forestry Office for permitted burn information.

Additional References

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/
 - o Map of Current Fires: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php
 - o Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
 - National Fire Situation: http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf
 - Guide to Wildland Fire Suppression in AK:
 http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/flash/Media%20Guide%20to%20AK%20Wildla nd%20Fire%20Suppression.pdf
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group- Education and Reference Materials: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php
- Creating Defensible Space: http://firewise.org/ and http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.pdf
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, http://511.alaska.gov/
 Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm
- National Parks Service: http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm
- National Weather Service: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: http://www.fws.gov/fire/
- USDA Forest Service: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/
- Federal Aviation Administration: http://www.faa.gov/

AICC Morning Highlights is compiled by Maggie Rogers (Alaska Division of Forestry) and Doug Stockdale (BLM Alaska Fire Service).

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